

Force's C-17 program director; Rudy de Leon, who is over here with me, our Under Secretary of the Air Force; Harry Stonecipher, and your program manager, Don Kozlowski; and to the Members of Congress who supported this program so strongly. All of you have done a job very well.

And let me say, I want you to remember—if you don't remember anything else about today except how many more planes you're going to build—[laughter]—how you turned the program around. The partnership between Government and McDonnell Douglas, the partnership between management and labor, the understanding that there was a mission to perform, that it had to be performed by everybody pulling together and working together.

And I want you to think about every single challenge your country faces. Just look around the sea of faces here today. Is there another nation where the head of the nation's government could go and speak to a group like this and see so much diversity in the crowd among the workers? I think not. Is there another place where you could see so many people from so many different backgrounds, so many different walks of life, so many different religious faiths, working together toward a common goal? What you did here and the way you did it is a model for the way America must meet the other challenges we face.

We have a clear choice facing us in every single area of human endeavor. If you want everybody in your country to be able to have a good job and raise a strong family; if you believe everybody ought to be able to send their children to good schools; if you think everybody should enjoy the benefits of a clean environment; if you believe people ought to have safe streets and that they shouldn't have to worry about their children and their children's teachers being shot at the way the poor man in Los Angeles was wounded just a couple of days ago; if you believe that this country has to continue to lead the world toward peace and freedom, then you must understand that every single challenge we have has to be met the way you met the challenge of the C-17. When we pull together, when we work together, when we have a clear mission, we never lose.

You won for America, and America can win in the future.

Thank you, and God bless you all.

NOTE: The President spoke at 10:50 a.m. on the east ramp at Building 54. In his remarks, he referred to Mayor Beverly O'Neill of Long Beach; Harry Stonecipher, chief executive officer, Don Kozlowski, president, C-17 program, and Betty Cavanagh, employee, McDonnell Douglas; and Prime Minister Ryutaro Hashimoto of Japan. A tape was not available for verification of the content of these remarks.

Message to the Congress Transmitting Budget Deferrals and Rescissions

February 23, 1996

To the Congress of the United States:

In accordance with the Congressional Budget and Impoundment Control Act of 1974, I herewith report three new deferrals and one revised deferral, totaling \$3.6 billion, and four rescission proposals of budgetary resources, totaling \$140 million.

These deferrals affect the International Security Assistance programs as well as programs of the Agency for International Development. The rescission proposals affect the Department of Defense.

William J. Clinton

The White House,
February 23, 1996.

Digest of Other White House Announcements

The following list includes the President's public schedule and other items of general interest announced by the Office of the Press Secretary and not included elsewhere in this issue.

February 17

In the morning, the President traveled to Portsmouth and Rochester, NH. In the afternoon, he traveled to Keene and Manchester. In the evening, the President traveled to Nashua and then returned to Washington, DC.